

APR 14 2004

OFFICIAL**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**
Group Art Unit 3746

In re

Patent Application of

Stephen J. Sharp, et. al.

Application No. 10/045,521

Confirmation No. 3137

Filed: October 26, 2001

Examiner: Han L. Liu

"ENCLOSURE FOR AN AIR COMPRESSOR"

I, Glenn M. Masina, hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (703) 572-9302, on the date of my signature.


Signature4-14-04
Date of Signature**RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This responds to the January 14, 2004 Office Action. Please amend the application as set forth below.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

An Appendix including a terminal disclaimer is attached following page 11 of this paper.

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6 in compartment 8. There is no teaching or suggestion to place the motor configured to drive the compressor in the compartment 8 that is already occupied by the vacuum and its associated drive. The cited reference fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention. Claims 24, 25, 27 and 34 each depend from claim 23.

The examiner rejected claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Mueller in combination with U.S. Patent No. 5,507,618 (Kubo et al.). Applicants traverse such rejection. The aftercooler 63 of Kubo et al. does not define a fluid passage from the first compartment to the discharge compartment and there is no teaching or suggestion to modify Mueller as such.

It is respectfully submitted that pending claims 23-27 and 30-41 are in condition for allowance. Early reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

If the examiner believes an interview, either telephonic or in person, will advance the prosecution of this matter, it is respectfully requested that the examiner get in contact with the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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Reg. No. 40,081

Docket No.: 086402-9020
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